

It is outrageous that Pappas Telecasting is donating \$325,000 in airtime to Republican candidates in certain areas. This is a powerful media group abusing its privileged access to the public airwaves. What happened to "equal" time?

During election season, local audiences should be offered genuine debate -- not disingenuous offers to "purchase" an equal amount of response time. Pappas should be required to give an equal amount of "free" time to all appropriate candidates.

Pappas uses the public airwaves free of charge and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. Pappas' actions are legally questionable and cast doubt on whether Pappas truly intends to serve the public interest. Their actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. Further, they show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than just a returned postcard. Thank you.